Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 10033 011942Z ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 SP-02 /058 W

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R 011821Z JUN 78 FM AMEMBASSY BONN TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9022 INFO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA AMEMBASSY PARIS AMEMBASSY ROME AMEMBASSY CAIRO

CONFIDENTIAL BONN 10033

E.O. 11652: GDS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TAGS: MASS, PEPR, SO, GW

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE SIAD VISIT TO FRG

REF: MOGADISCIO 1200

1. OUR FOREIGN OFFICE WORKING LEVEL CONTACTS CONFIRM REFTEL REPORT THAT THE GERMANS ARE UNENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THE PROSPECT OF A MID-JUNE VISIT BY PRESIDENT SIAD. WORKING LEVEL OFFICIALS BELIEVE FRG RELATIONS WITH SOMALIA HAVE BEEN TOO MUCH ON THE FRONT BURNER IN RECENT MONTHS AND THEY WOULD LIKE TO DEFER THE VISIT. WHILE NOT ADVOCATING THE DIMINUTION OF THE FRG-SOMALIA RELATIONSHIP, THEY SEE A NEED FOR A MORE BALANCED APPROACH TO THE HORN. THESE OFFICIALS BELIEVE THE FRG SHOULD GIVE GREATER ATTENTION TO ITS RELATIONS WITH ETHIOPIA OR AT LEAST NOT EXACERBATE THE SITUATION BY OVER EMPHASIZING BONN'S TIES TO SOMALIA. AT THE SAME TIME, THE FRG CONTINUES TO OWE A DEBT OF GRATITUDE TO SIAD. HENCE, A DECISION ON THE VISIT HAS SOME DOMESTIC CONFIDENTIAL.

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PAGE 02 BONN 10033 011942Z

POLITICAL CONTENT AND WILL BE MADE AT A SENIOR LEVEL. A DEFINITE DECISION IS EXPECTED NEXT WEEK. SHOULD IT BE NEGATIVE, THE FRG WILL PLEAD SCHEDULING DIFFICULTIES.

2. OUR CONTACTS HERE BELIEVE SIAD WOULD BE MORE LIKELY TO PRESS THE FRG FOR ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL ASSISTANCE THAN MILITARY AIDE. THEY REASON THAT THE GERMANS, IN-

CLUDING SCHMIDT, HAVE MADE CLEAR THAT ARMS ARE OUT OF
THE QUESTION AND THEY QUESTION WHETHER SIAD WOULD AGAIN
WISH TO BE REBUFFED.
STOESSEL

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